TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 14, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 9 totaled an estimated 13.1 billion ton-miles, 8.4 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both years included the Independence Day Holiday and the second week of the annual coal miners' holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 27 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 414.9 billion ton-miles, 3.0 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 9 totaled 283,058 cars, 6.6 percent over 1982, but 18.7 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 4.6 percent in the South and 11.2 percent in the West, but down 1.1 percent in the East.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 12 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by metallic ores, which increased by 70.3 percent. Other significant gains included: lumber and wood products, 21.3 percent; coke, 19.9 percent; non-metallic minerals, 18.7 percent; and stone, clay and glass products, 13.6 percent. Twenty of the 21 groups were down from the preceding non-holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 2 totaled 48,251 cars, up 26.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 83,486 trailers and/or containers, 24.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 26 weeks of the year was 1,124,853 cars, 19.7 percent higher than last year, and 1,933,532 trailers and/or containers, up 15.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/9/83:

	Loadings in Week ended July 9, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,767	I	2,006	7.8	I	3,874	16.2
Other farm products	3,810	D	22	0.6	D	531	12.2
Metallic ores	19,291	I	7,962	70.3	D	2,795	12.7
Coal	61,607	D	2,453	3.8	D	15,014	19.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,890	I	679	8.3	D	1,907	17.7
Nonmetallic minerals	9,678	I	1,526	18.7	D	1,765	15.4
Grain mill products	9,601	I	329	3.5	D	1,599	14.3
Food and kindred products	9,129	D	1,063	10.4	D	2,292	20.1
Primary forest products	10,256	D	814	7.4	D	2,970	22.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	4,931	I	866	21.3	D	3,154	39.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,789	D	95	0.8	D	3,421	22.5
Chemicals and allied products	17,551	I	789	4.7	D	5,612	24.2
Petroleum products	3,903	D	185	4.5	D	906	18.8
Stone, clay and glass products	9,505	I	1,141	13.6	D	1,031	9.8
Coke	5,024	I	834	19.9	D	666	11.7
Metals and products	5,975	D	164	2.7	D	3,024	33.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	11,579	I	550	5.0	D	5,420	31.9
Waste and scrap materials	5,786	I	327	6.0	D	1,913	24.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,479	D	165	2.5	D	2,143	24.9
All other carloads	40,301	I	6,152	18.0	D	12,858	24.2
LCL traffic	206	D	667	76.4	D	75	26.7
Total Cars Loaded	283,058	I	17,533	6.6	D	65,222	18.7
Corresponding week of 1982	265,525						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (27 weeks)	9,439,368	10,048,864	D 6.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
26 weeks ended July 2	401.7	415.5	D 3.3
Week ended July 9	13.1	12.1	I 8.4
27 weeks cumulative	414.9	427.6	D 3.0

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